DATE: June 22, 2015

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 9: Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant amendment to

Camp Fire of Southern California Metropolitan for the Camp Shiwaka Urban

Forest and Discovery Trail (RMC13005).

PROGRAM AREA: Urban Lands

PROJECT TYPE: Development

JURISDICTION: City of Long Beach

PROJECT MANAGER: Luz Quinnell

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC authorize a grant amendment to revise the scope of work, augment the budget and extend the timeline to Camp Fire of Southern California Metropolitan for the Camp Shiwaka Urban Forest and Discovery Trail (RMC13005).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Camp Fire of Southern California Metropolitan for the Camp Shiwaka Urban Forest and Discovery Trail (Camp Fire) proposes to revise the scope of work to include additional trail improvements along the City of Long Beach Bike Path with interpretive signage and installation of a Habitat Wall and the development of an urban forest with extensive native landscaping, including an improved ADA complaint trail remains part of the scope of work.

BACKGROUND: Camp Fire is located in the City of Long Beach and serves the Gateway Cities. Camp Fire is just north of the Long Beach Towne Center and El Dorado Nature Park and conveniently located adjacent to the Long Beach Bicycle Trail and ½-mile from the San Gabriel River Trail, please see Exhibit A: Project Map. Although the camp is owned by the City of Long Beach, Camp Fire has retained a long-term lease from the City of Long Beach and their continuing relationship has afforded them with a lease through 2047. In addition, Camp Fire has serviced and provided continuous public programs such as summer camps, science day camps and other public programs for the Gateway cities since 1969.

Currently, Camp Fire has completed a portion of this grant which includes the Urban Forest, an ADA complaint three-quarter mile decomposed granite trail themed The Discovery Trail, installation of a reclaimed water irrigation system, installation of 102 trees which represent distinctive "ecological zones", and four "Magic Circles" areas which provide group seating on natural log benches and boulders as were interpretive panels and educational information for the public, please see attached photos from the April 25-Grand Reopening.

Camp Fire is requesting to expand the scope of work and thus requesting an additional funding amount of \$300,000 for a total grant amount not to exceed \$678,000 for the completion of the trail improvements and connections from Camp Fire to the regional bicycle trails of Long Beach and the San Gabriel River Trails and installation of the habitat wall. The Long Beach Bicycle Trail is a regional bicycle trail that runs east/west along Carson Street through Hartwell Park connecting Camp Fire to the San Gabriel River and eventually to the Los Angeles Bicycle Trails.

The amended scope of work will include the construction of a unique Habitat Wall along the northern boundary of its property along with improvements to the trails which connects Camp Fire to the Long Beach Bicycle and San Gabriel River Trails. These additional improvements and specifically the Habitat Wall is in response to the need for security and sound abatement for the camp and further increasing the Urban Forest amenities by increasing habitat opportunities for wildlife species.

The Habitat Wall, as proposed, is built of steel wire "cages" that are each 3' x 6' x 3'. The cages are filled with repurposed sidewalk concrete, when available, or rocks, if not available, and are stacked on each other to a height of 9 feet. Fill dirt is then added to the cages, making it possible to establish various native plant communities. The Habitat Wall with its geometry and structure would provide shelter and foraging for wildlife. The City of Long Beach has conceptually approved the design of this unique Habitat Wall which will measure 840 feet long and would be built along the entirety of the camp's northern boundary. In addition the Habitat Wall will be built with limited wood fencing in part to provide a less "monolithic" look to this very long wall. The weight and stability of the Habitat Wall promises far greater security for camper overnights than the existing chain link fence. Further, if Camp Fire is awarded matching funds from the LA County Regional Park and Open Space 2015 Competitive Grant Program, then the LA County funds would subsidize the construction of the Habitat Wall.

The RMC funds if awarded would match the LA County Regional Park and Open Space 2015 Competitive Grant Program funds and complete the trail connections and improvements from Camp Fire to the regional bicycle trails of the Long Beach and the San Gabriel River Bicycle Trails. These trail connections and improvements at Camp Fire are necessary specifically since the construction of the Habitat Wall will require realignment of the trails and move the property line slightly south of the existing Camp Fire boundary. The proposed trail improvements would include: (1) revising the lease agreement between Camp Fire and the City of Long Beach to a slight change in its leased property line; (2) removal of the existing bottlebrush trees and other vegetation; (3) addition of a 9-foot high Habitat Wall along Carson Street (4) the extension of the newly-installed irrigation lines; (5) trail connections and improvements from Camp Fire to the regional Long Beach and San Gabriel River Bicycle Trails: (6) realignment and reconstruction of an existing dirt road necessary for emergency vehicle use; and (7) interpretative and way-finding signage from Camp Fire to the Long Beach and San Gabriel River Bicycle Trails. Site preparation will include the removal of the existing fence and the establishment of the new property line slightly south of the existing boundary line. The complete and proposed project will encompass the construction of a Habitat Wall, development of an urban forest, including an extensive native landscaping, improvements to the trails, interpretive signage, and creation of a new trail themed the Discovery Trail. These improvements will allow for the full use of Camp Fire's facility and provide significant enhancements to its fully accredited camp and possibly provide for additional public programming.

Planning for this project began in 2000 with collaboration between the Will J. Reid Foundation and Camp Fire leadership over how best to build a sustainable model that could be a demonstration project for other urban communities with limited access to natural open space. Camp Fire's Board of Directors incorporated this model into its strategic plan developed in July 2005; and since then the proposed project has been carefully planned and it is currently near completion for the construction documents. Further, Camp Fire has had extensive input from all of the Camp Fire's constituencies including local stakeholders such as the Long Beach Unified School District and City Council members from both the Cities of Long Beach and Signal Hill.

Additionally, Camp Fire has received from the City of Long Beach their Conditions of Approval for the Habitat Wall on August 6, 2014 which further indicate the City's support for the proposed project. Construction documents are being prepared under the direction of Totum, the architectural and construction management firm which has guided the development and completion of all phases and most recently the completion of the Urban Forest. Camp Fire contracted with Totum since they have provided exemplary leadership with completing projects on time and on budget.

Staff is recommending approval of the grant amendment to revise the scope of work, augment the budget by \$300,000 and extend the timeline through December 30, 2016 since the Camp Fire meets the RMC's mission to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements within the RMC's jurisdiction. Additionally, Camp Fire has demonstrated it has the organizational capacity and commitment to complete the proposed project, operate and maintain in perpetuity given Camp Fire has been managing and maintaining the property for over 40 years.

Further, Camp Fire is a unique project for the lower San Gabriel River region and the Gateway communities because while there are parks nearby, these are more typical "city parks" with sports areas and picnic facilities with active recreation. Camp Fire is able to combine active and passive use opportunities for its visitors, including overnight camping, extensive summer programs for all ages and introduces generation after generation of young people and their families to the outdoor experiences which then encourage active stewardship of our public lands. As an example, recently the Long Beach Unified School District had to reduce their outdoor education camp near Mount Wilson, making a Camp Fire a natural next choice for the school district to partner and utilize Camp Fire's science programs. Camp Fire is a local resource for the Gateway communities for outdoor science days, overnight camping and again because of its proximity to public transportation and surrounding school districts which can partner with Camp Fire for their public school programs throughout the year. Finally the proximity of public transportation makes this a regional draw, as well as a neighborhood natural open space.

This grant is consistent with the RMC Resolutions 2013-18 and Camp Fire has submitted the necessary documents including the project location map, Revised Designs, Revised Tasklist/Timeline and Revised Budget, these exhibits are attached accordingly as Exhibits A, B, C and D.

FISCAL INFORMATION: The total estimated cost of implementation is \$1,510,250 with matching funds from LA County Prop A and Camp Fire. And upon evaluation of the funding request, staff recommends augmenting funding for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 with a contingency that Camp Fire is awarded the LA County Regional Park and Open Space 2015 Competitive Grant Program in the amount of \$300,000. Funding for this grant was originally encumbered from Prop 84 (PCA 30331) for a total amount of \$378,000, additional funding in the amount of \$300,000 may be encumbered from Prop 84, Prop 40 and/or Prop 50.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: This grant was initially authorized by the RMC on November 25, 2013 as specified in Resolution 2013-18.

Exhibit A: Project Location Map

Exhibit A: Project Location Map

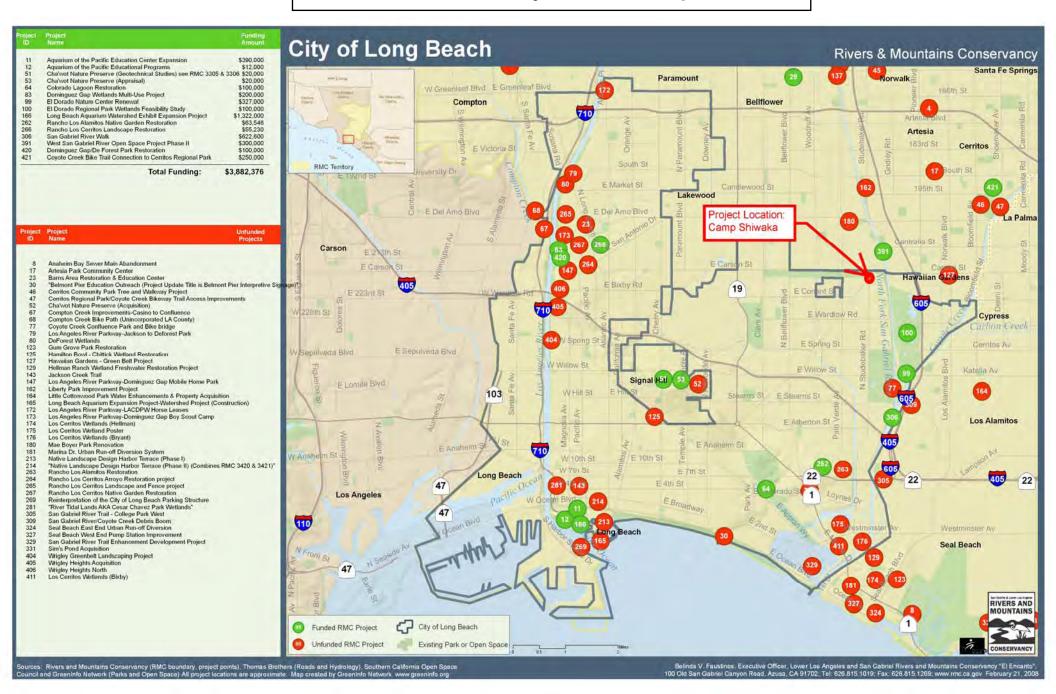
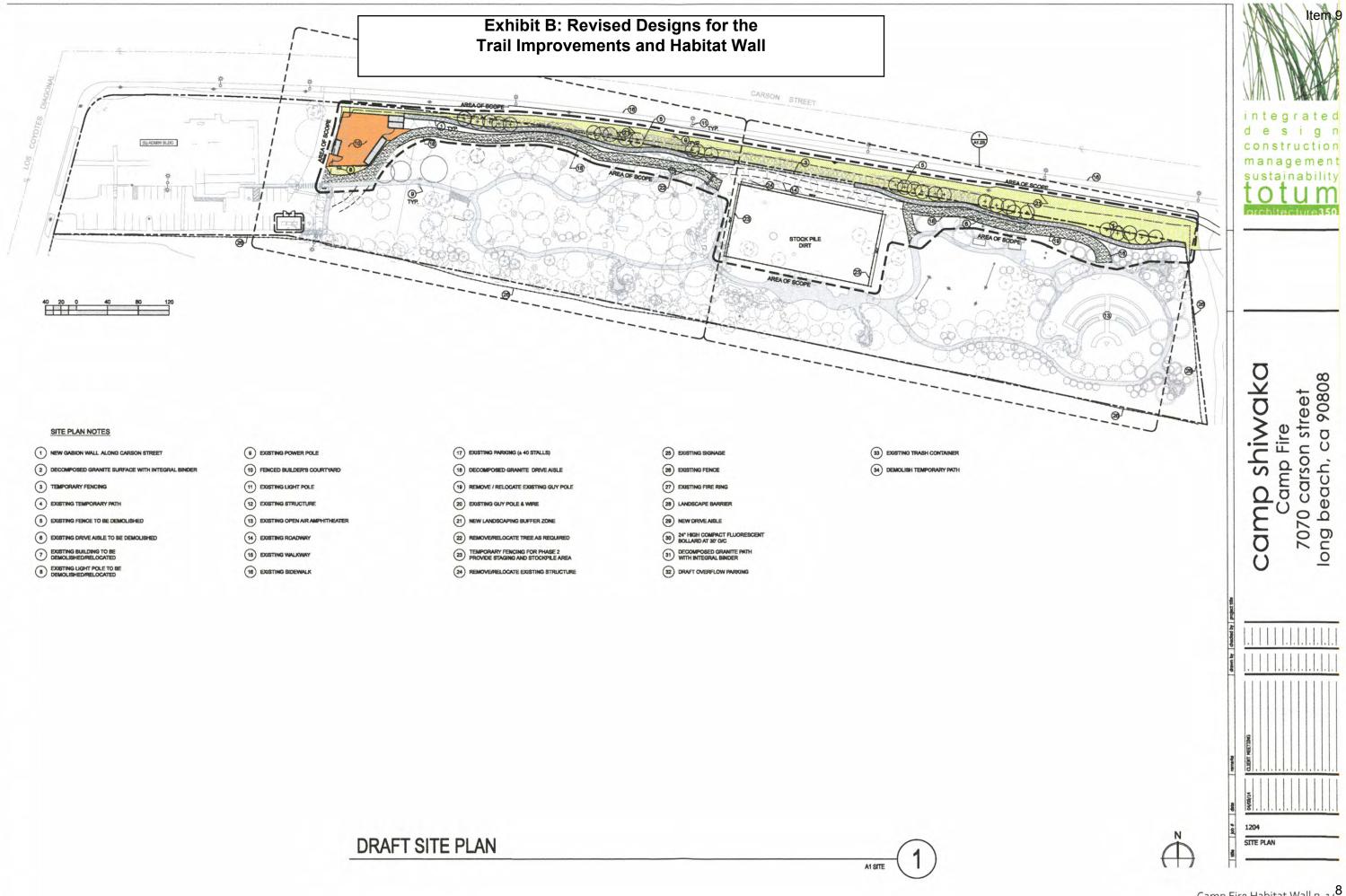
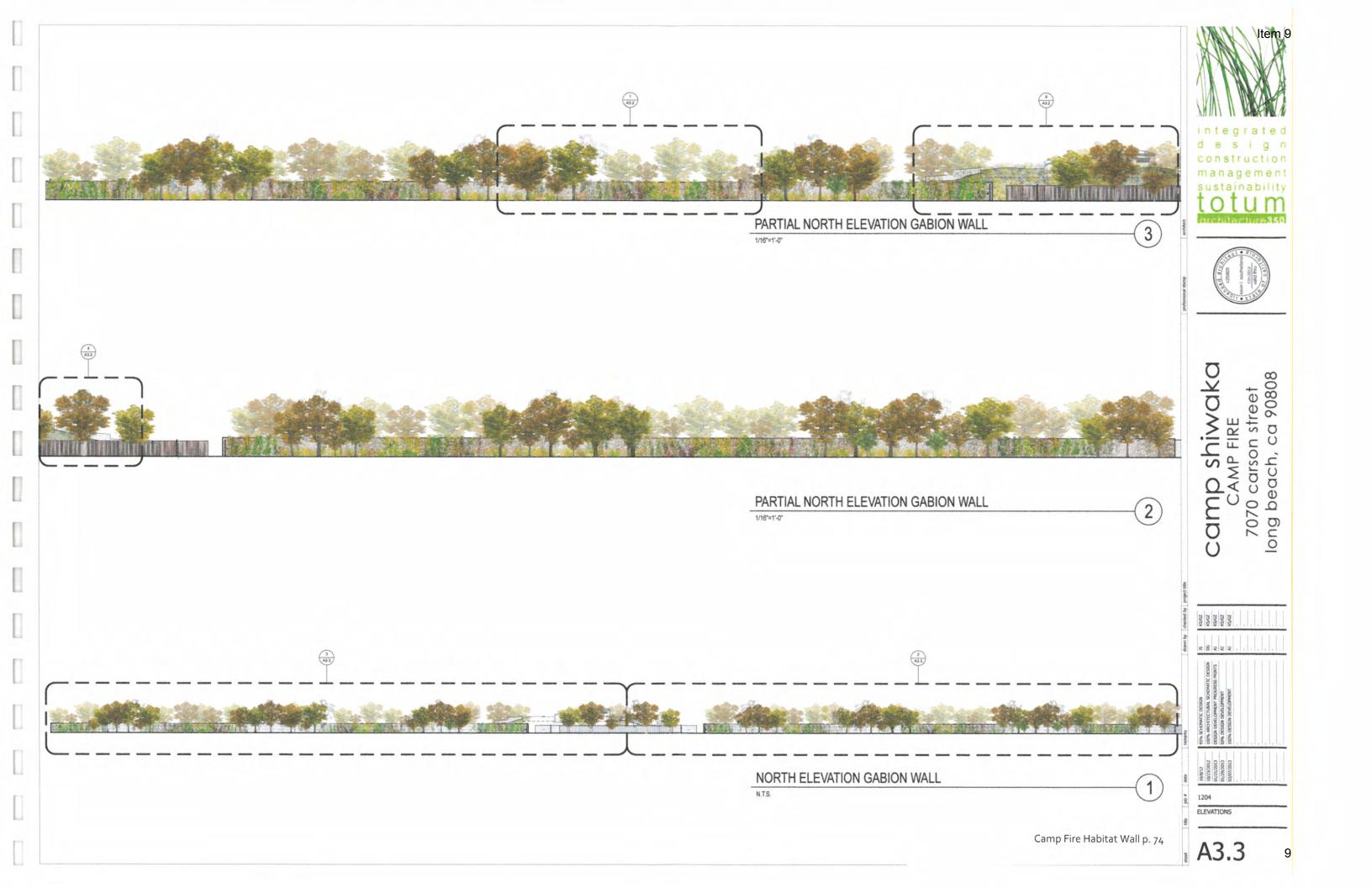


Exhibit B: Revised Designs for the Trail Improvements and the Habitat Wall





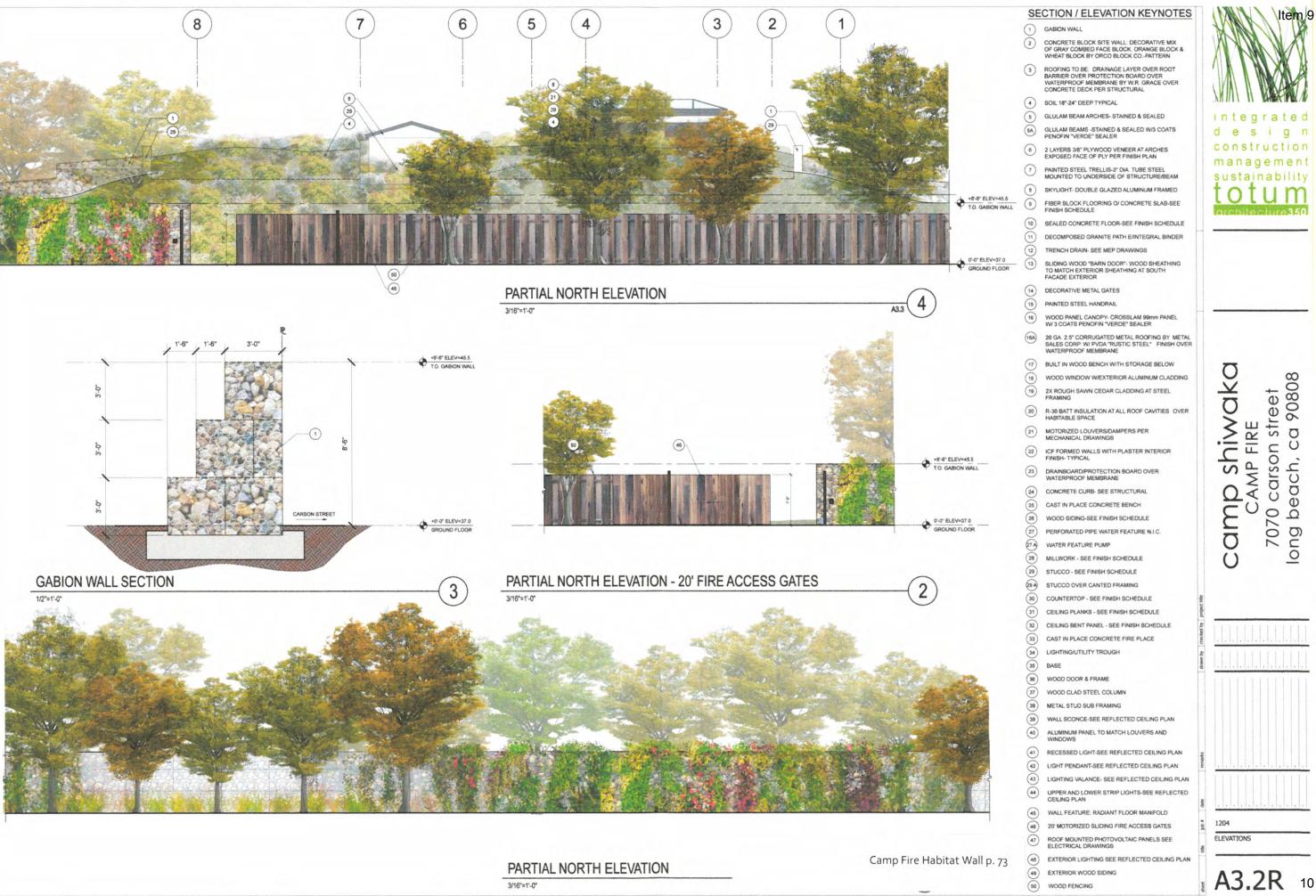


Exhibit C: Timeline and Tasklist

Item 9

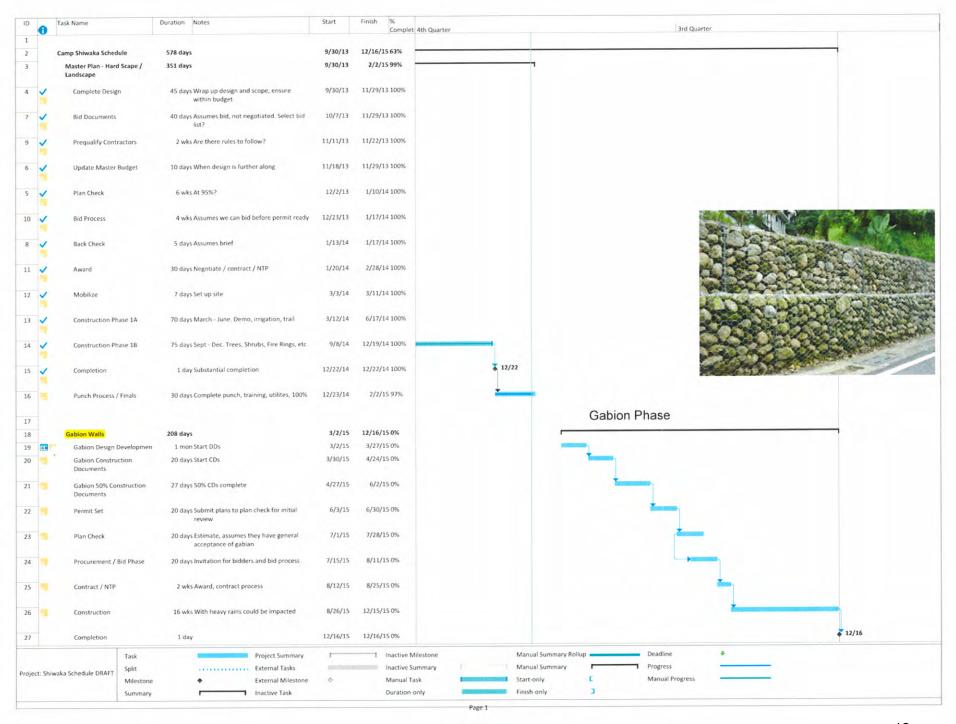


Exhibit D: Revised Budget

Revised PROJECT BUDGET : CAMP SHIWAKA URBAN FOREST

AGENCY: CAMP FIRE LONG BEACH

				Camp Fire	
	Total Project	County Trail		Matching	Task
ELEMENT	Cost	Grant Portion	RMC Portion	Grants	Completed
PHASE 1					
Administrative/Soft Costs	\$ 62,276	\$ 17,624	\$ 7,758	\$ 36,894	Completed
Contingency	41,276	17,624	7,758	15,894	Completed
Fine Grade, Landscape, Irrigation, DG Trails	467,840	205,850	261,990		Completed
Seating Areas (Magic Circle)	12,198	12,198			Completed
Pathways to Magic Circle	4,065	1,789	2,276		Completed
Landscape Tie in to Building Project	102,082	44,916	57,166		Completed
Interpretive Panels Allowance	54,000		30,240	23,760	Pending
Reclaimed Water Tie In	19,305		10,811	8,494	Completed
Wayfinding Signage	10,000			10,000	Pending
Benches, Bollards, etc	20,333			20,333	Completed
Lighting Allowance	45,000			45,000	
Special Grading @ Amphitheater	21,875			21,875	
Total Phase 1	860,250	300,000	378,000	182,250	
PHASE 2					
Administrative/Soft Costs	58,400	26,864	26,864	4,672	
Prop A Signage	10,000	4,602		5,398	
Mobilization, Demolition, Survey & Grading	81,407	37,351	37,351	6,705	
Habitat Wall Construction	337,679	156,177	158,479	23,023	
Landscape and Fences	136,273	62,895	65,195	8,183	
DG Road	26,241	12,111	12,111	2,019	
Total Phase 2	650,000	300,000	300,000	50,000	-
GRAND TOTAL for Phase 1 & 2	\$ 1,510,250	\$ 600,000	\$ 678,000	\$ 232,251	

Exhibit E: Project Photos



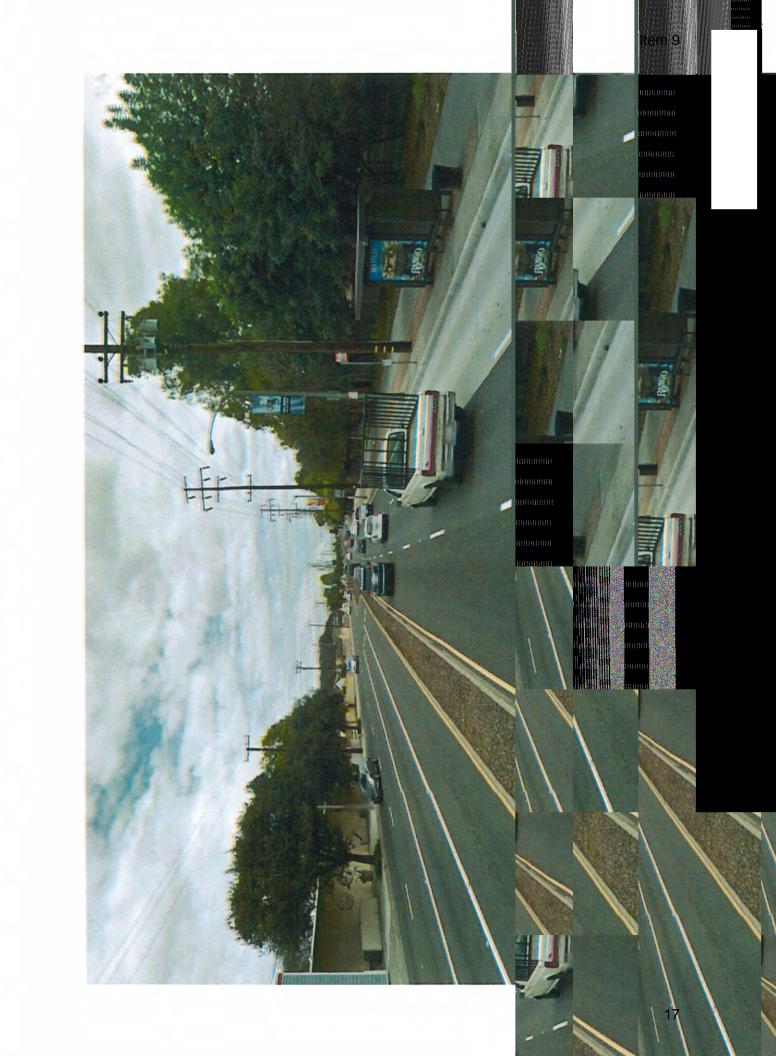
This photo faces southwest on Carson Street. Seen through the chain link fence spanning the San Gabriel River is the bike path on the far side of the river that borders Camp Fire. The tallest trees in the picture are in Camp Shiwaka.

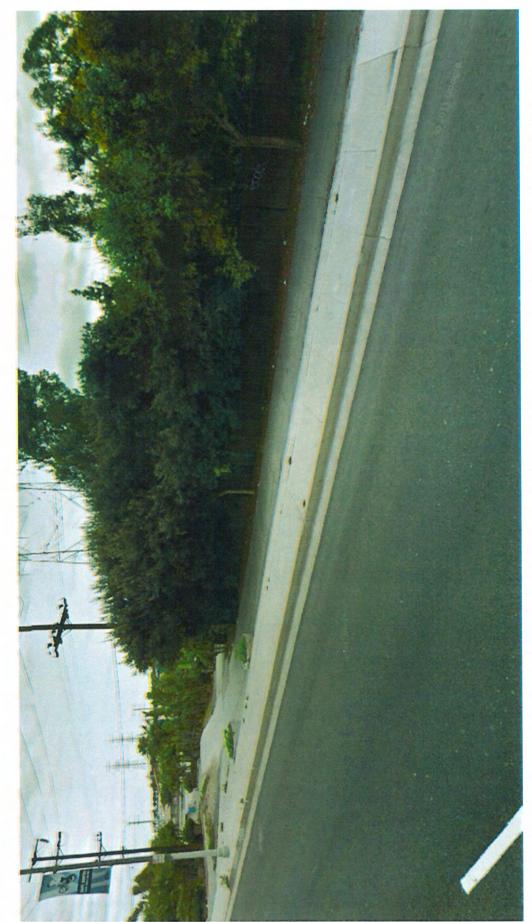


At the east end of Camp Shiwaka the bike path on Carson Street veers right past the nursery and towards the San Gabriel River where it continues south along the river.



East Carson St. and Los Coyotes Diagonal in the city of Long Beach. Lakewood is across the street to the north. The camp extends from This photo shows the Camp Fire Camp Shiwaka property on right side of picture. The property is located on the southeast corner of the corner of that intersection due east to an easement owned by Los Angeles County and leased by SC Edison and a nursery.





This photo faces southeast at the far east end of Camp Shiwaka before reaching the nursery on the right. At this angle there is a glimpse of the San Gabriel River bank showing where the bike path joins the bike path.

June 22, 2015

RESOLUTION 2015-16

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) AUTHORIZING A GRANT AMENDMENT TO CAMP FIRE OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA METROPOLITAN FOR THE CAMP SHIWAKA URBAN FOREST AND DISCOVERY TRAIL (RMC13005).

WHEREAS, The legislature has found and declared that the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, the Lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the San Gabriel Mountains, Puente Hills, and San Jose Hills constitute a unique and important open space, environmental, anthropological, cultural, scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, and wildlife resource that should be held in trust to be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, The RMC may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of Division 22.8 the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, This action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the RMC hereby:

- 1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Act and is necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code.
- FINDS that the grant is consistent with the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, which provides funds for the RMC grant program.
- 3. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
- 4. APPROVES a grant amendment to revise the scope of work, augment the budget for amount not to exceed \$300,000 for a total grant amount not to exceed \$678,000 and extend the timeline through December 30, 2016 to Camp Fire of Southern California Metropolitan for the Camp Shiwaka Urban Forest and Discovery Trail (RMC13005).
- 5. ADOPTS the staff report dated June 22, 2015.

~ End of Resolution ~

Motio	otion Second:		
Ayes	s: Nays:	Abstentions:	
SAN GABR	Adopted by the Board of the IEL AND LOWER LOS ANGEL ANCY on June 22, 2015	LES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS	
		Frank Colonna, Chair	
ATTEST:	Terry Fujimoto Deputy Attorney General		